

W6OTX**W6ARA**PAARA NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 63, NUMBER 10, Oct 2013**K6OTA****K6YQT**

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.Celebrating 76 years as an *active* amateur radio club—Since 1937<http://www.paara.org/>

**October Meeting Date is
Friday, October 11**

Oct 11, 2013

7:00 pm

**Cubberley Community Center
Room H-6****4000 Middlefield Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303**

Meteor Scatter using FSK441

Russ Bentson, K6KLY

- Russ Bentson, K6KLY will give an informal talk about Meteor Scatter Propagation. The talk will include information about equipment, software, and procedures including antennas, frequencies, times, reflectors, procedures, and WSJT FSK441.
- This will be a very interesting talk familiar to some and new to many. Join us for another great meeting and talk.

Russ Bentson Bio

- Russ Bentson, K6KLY was first licensed in 1957, has held every level of FCC amateur radio license. Has been in every June VHF contest since 1959. He holds the Pacific Division Single Operator high power record for the June VHF contest and is currently the only operator in the Pacific Division with 10 band DXCC, with over 2400 band countries. Russ is the first past president of the NCDXC, and a ARRL QSL card checker. He holds WAS #212 on 6 meters, and VUCC on 6 meters and 10 GHZ. Russ is a member of the DXCC #1 club. During the 1980s Russ operated the CQWW phone contest from several countries, and placed 14th in the world in 1982. He also holds the call P40LY in Aruba. Currently Russ is working on a VUCC on 2meters and getting very close.

President's Corner

October 2013

It's time for Halloween, Pacifi-con, and time for CQP too. We've got a busy month coming up for both Ham Radio and for the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association. Fall contest season is in full swing too, so it's time to get on the radio.



Coming up right away is the 48th running of the California QSO Party sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club. This statewide event kicks off on Saturday morning, October 5th at 1600Z, until 2200Z on the 6th. That's 30 hours of operating fun and adventure where you are the DX that is sought after. It's a rare thing for others to be looking for 6 Area stations, so enjoy the notoriety and have some fun on phone and CW. As we've done for the last few years, our W6T team headed up by Rick, N6DQ, will be setting out for Lewiston, CA in Trinity County to set up and operate. We are all a bit stressed this year with various things, so we are not going all-out, but we are planning on having fun in that beautiful area with a more relaxed operation. We hope to

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have a nice steak dinner, work some good Qs, see the deer in the morning, and I personally am looking forward to being out of touch, with no cell coverage for a few days. I hope we get a chance to work you. Go to <http://www.cqp.org> for more info.

Pacificon, the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, is coming up right after CQP. In fact, it's the following weekend. Right before that, though, is the PAARA meeting. Don't forget that it's one week later than usual this month because of CQP. At Pacificon, there will be vendors, displays, talks and information to satisfy all of your ham radio desires. There will also be many great opportunities to visit with many of your friends, both new and old. I usually spend much of my time visiting with people, some of whom I only see once a year during Pacificon. There will be a banquet on Saturday evening, followed by Wouff Hong at midnight. There are a number of talks on all three days. There is the Antenna Forum on Friday with many antenna-specific technical topics, followed by the more general tracks on Saturday and Sunday. As in prior years, I'll be giving a talk this year, and it will be a new one. This year we will be exploring VIRLCW - Voltage, Current, Resistance, Inductance, Capacitance, and Watts (Power). What are these things really? You may have used them to describe things before, but perhaps we can take a deeper look at what they mean. It should be fun and informative.

One thing that is new for Pacificon this year is that PAARA is participating directly by sponsoring the special event station, W6P, at the event. This is like a mini-Field Day, but without the scoring stress and we get to sleep too! Our VP Marty, W6NEV, is heading up the effort to organize the setup of the station and operator schedules. If you are interested in operating or setup and tear-down, please contact Marty at w6nev@arrl.net and let him know. I'm sure he would appreciate your help. This will be a great chance to remind everyone that PAARA really is, "The Friendliest Club Around."

Once this is all over, you only get to rest a little bit before you have to get on the air for the CQ World Wide DX Contest, SSB on October 26th, right before Halloween. It's a great time to work some DX. There will be stations out there with great antennas, so get out there and have some fun.

I hope to see you at one of these events this month, or at least work you in CQP. Until then 73 DE K6WX — Kristen

K6MDD D-Star System Status

On Tuesday, Sept 17, we got up to the site for the first time since the [Ed: Mt. Diablo] fire and saw first hand the condition of the equipment. It was depressing to say the least. A black soot was over everything and several pieces of equipment had charring all over them. Much of the feed lines were burnt and will need to be replaced or fixed.

I pulled all of the equipment on Tuesday. The D-Star Controller looks like it may be lost. Icom has asked me to send them all of the D-Star equipment for them to look at and advise me on what should be done. I will bring the D-Star equipment to HRO on Monday and they will assist in sending it back. I very big thank you to them for making this offer.

The filters, duplexer, power amp, preamp and Gateway CPU may need to be repaired or replaced.

The BUILDING at the Site is in BAD shape and will either need to be replaced or repaired before we can re-install any equipment.

The Site Owner wants us back and knows the service to the Ham Community that is provided by the K6MDD D-Star System.

The AC power is still off on the top of North Peak and several power poles need to be replaced in order to have power restored.

I have the insurance claim process started. I'm not sure what will happen with it or how long it will take.

Donation may be made from a link on the K6MDD Web Site at www.k6mdd.org

I sincerely want to thank you all in advance for any contribution that are made.

As we all know, the K6MDD D-Star Repeater is one of the BEST D-Star Systems in the World and it will be AGAIN.

Thanks & 73'

Tim Barrett

A Simplified Direction Finder

I got this idea a long time ago from a 1974-edition of the ARRL's *"Hints and Kinks" for the Radio Amateur*. It was from an article (...same title as above) written by Bob Davis, K4BRD. Total credit goes to him and to WA4BRY where Bob originally got the idea from.

What it was was a commonly mounted *earth-globe*, say 9 – 15-inches in diameter, those normally seen in a library or den but modified slightly to yield useful beam-heading antenna-pointing information especially for the DXer.

What you do is carefully dismount the globe from its N-S pivot points



and support. Then drill a small hole at your home QTH that will accept the pivot-point on the globe. Then drill another hole at the exact opposite end of the globe for the other pivot point.

Next carefully replace the globe back into its support but pivoted around your QTH as its "new North pole." Check the rotation, making sure it is 'true' and that there is no binding. As was Bob's original referenced above, my support was



graduated in degrees with the zero at the equator.

Using this 'zero' I drew in a 'new' equator around my globe using a black Sharpie-pen.

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Next I indicated the cardinal (NEWS) compass points around the new equator.

East and West were easy as those proved to be the intersections with the original equator. North and South was almost as easy too. Those points were aligned with the original N and S and intersected the new equator. The 'in-betweeners' NW, SE, etc., were 'eyeballed' in

equidistant from the NEWS cardinal points.



This became a dream to use. To date I have simply placed the desired DX location (...no matter where or how rare) directly under the support arm. The approximate direction and beam-heading is immediately indicated on the 'new' equator.

Ralph Hunt, AG6Q

Sept Board Meeting Minutes

The Board Meeting was held at the Palo Alto Red Cross building, commencing at 7:45 PM on the 18th of September, 2013. Attending were Kristen McIntyre K6WX (Pres), Marty Wayne W6NEV (VP), Jim Thielemann KI6KVV (Sec, Database), Ron Chester W6AZ (Treas), Darryl Presley KI6LDM (Dir), Larry Rebarchik N6DB (Dir), and Doug Teter KG6LWE (Field Day Coordinator). A quorum was present.

President's Report: Kristen K6WX reported that the September 6th General Meeting was well attended and that the presentation on PhoneSat, NASA's Smartphone Nanosatellite by Ken Oyadomari, KK6EIQ interesting and well received. She also talked about having to rebuild, and replace the board mail server. Further discussion was conducted on adding the ability to do mass emails to all members, present and or past, when needed.

Kristen also reported that the web site is almost ready to offer Paypal payment for new memberships and renewals. The site will also offer merchandise for sale. As there are a few remaining items to address, the board voted to make the "go live" date November 1st.

On a continuing theme, the board wishes to invite the general membership to consider having your submissions published in upcoming issues of PAARAgaphs. Any projects, technical articles, hints n kinks, DX, on the air experiences that might be of interest? We can even help you write them up!

Vice President's Report: Marty W6NEV informed us that the presentation for the October meeting will feature Russ Bentson, K6KLY, on Meteor Scatter Propagation and communications using FSK441. He's also looking for a November speaker so if anyone has any ideas, contact Marty.

Secretary's Report: Jim KI6KVV reports that there were three new members and two renewals at the September 6th meeting. He also reports that there are 148 members and 3 that have renewed for 2014 bringing the total to 151 current members.

Treasurer's Report: Ron W6AZ reported that club finances are healthy and that the flea market "season" is over. There was renewed conversation on the clubs 501(c)(4) tax exempt status and the wording needed to fill out a government form he received.

Marty W6NEV updated the board on PAARA's participation at Pacificon. PAARA will be setting up 2

HF stations, a tower trailer and antennas to support the operation of W6P during Pacificon. He met with MDARC to solidify who is responsible for what. He does need volunteers to help setup on Friday October 11th and to help dismantle on Sunday the 13th. Anyone wishing to help or operate should contact Marty.

Under New Business, Kristen points out that it's that time of year again when our election cycle for club officers for 2014 commences with the September Meeting appointment of our Election Committee Chairman. The Chairman will then in turn assemble the committee and open the agenda with nominations in the October meeting, which will close in November for the December election.

Equally important was a discussion on the date for the October meeting. The board felt there would be a large conflict with the CQP contest and the October 4th date and there would be an opportunity to attract new people from Pacificon who were looking for something to do on Friday before the show. Thus we will provide informational flyers during the setup of the radio equipment for W6P to let people know PAARA will be meeting on October 11th and to come join us.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

There were three new members at the September meeting:

John Neves	KB6FU	Palo Alto
Paul Laughton	NAC6B	San Jose
Jim Coates	KE6HPA	San Jose

PAARA Badges Ready for Pick-up:

K6FTF	Mark	San Jose
KJ6GBE	Sreendish	Redwood City
KG6GYG	Art	San Jose
N6JCY	Joani	San Jose
KI6JLS	Joanne	Palo Alto
KG6QKN	Francis	Palo Alto
KG6QKO	Kali	Palo Alto
KJ4SGT	Xiande	Campbell
KF6SRD	Chuck	Palo Alto
K6TSR	George	Portola Valley
K6VVK	Vincent	Palo Alto
KM6WP	Michael	Sunnyvale
K6WRU	Walter	Palo Alto
KK6CKO	Alex	Palo Alto
AC6B	Paul	San Jose
W6DLF	Dave	Sunnyvale
W6EI	Bob	Palo Alto



Sept. Raffle Winners

Left to Right

- Doug, KG6LWE
- Doyle, KG6YUN
- Mike, W6WZ
- Bob, KD6KYT
- Daniel, KJ6SEE
- Darryl, KI6LDM

October PAARA Raffle Prizes

1st prize: LDG Z100 Plus Antenna Tuner

RF Power: 0.1 to 125 watts SSB and CW, 30W on PSK
 Latching relays for ultra low power consumption
 2000 memories sorted by frequency
 1.8 to 54 MHz coverage (continuous coverage for MARS)
 Tunes 6 to 800 ohms. (16 to 150 on 6M)
 SO-239 in and out connections for dipoles, verticals, beams,
 G5RV, OCF, Cobra, ect
 7 to 18 Volts DC, 100 mA. 6-foot DC power cable included
 Dimensions: 5.5"L, 5.5"W, 1.5"H. Weight: 16 ounces



2nd prize: Signalink™ USB sound card - Radio Interface "New"

Built-in Low-noise Sound Card
 Simple Installation and Setup
 Complete Radio Isolation
 USB Port Powered
 Works with virtually ALL Radios
 Uses Mic, Data, or Accy Port
 Supports virtually All Sound Card Digital and Voice Modes

3rd prize: Two West Mountain Com Speakers

Eliminate HAM radio station interference
 Amplified speaker system optimized for operation in close range of any radio transmitter
 Exceptionally high rejection of radio frequency interference from 1 to 1000 MHz
 Stereo high fidelity response for use with voice or music
 Solid, resonance free, wooden cabinets

4th prize: LF-01 LED Lite Flare

5th prize: ARRL Repeater Directory

6th prize: Coax Wrap

7th prize: Bongo Ties

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

President	Kristen McIntyre, K6WX	510-703-4942
	kristen@alum.mit.edu	
Vice President.....	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-246-7531
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Secretary.....	Jim Thielemann, KI6KVV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
Treasurer	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243 2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	

Directors

Director ('13)	Byron Beck KG6UOB	408-369-1913
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Director ('14)	Larry Rebarchik N6DB	925 353-7952 (cell)
	n6db@arrl.net	
Director ('14)	Darryl Presley, KI6LDM	650 255-2454
	ki6ldm@arrl.net	

Appointed Positions

Membership	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
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Database.....	Jim Thielemann, KI6KVV	408-839-6815
	thielem@pacbell.net	
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Public Affairs	<i>Position Vacant</i>	
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Station Trustee K6OTA.....	Ron Chester, W6AZ	
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Fund Raising Coordinator.....	Bob Korte, KD6KYT	408 396 4745
	bob@rgktechsales.com	
Badge Coordinator.....	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
	dteter@wcwi.com	
HistorianPosition	<i>Position Vacant</i>	
Raffle Coordinator.....	Jim Rice, K6AK	650-851-2274
Ticket Master	Marty Wayne, W6NEV	408-246-7531
Field Day Coordinator	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-6200
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Webmaster.....	John Miller K6MM	
	webaron@gmail.com	
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QSL Manager.....	Rob Riley, KI6INR	650 799-1607 (cell)
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Photographer	Bill Young, K6VWO	
	jdsinger@sbcglobal.net	

Future PARRA Meeting Dates

Oct 11th, Nov 1st, Dec 6th

VE Exams

3rd Saturday each month, 10:30AM, 145.23- PL=100Hz
 Redwood City Main Library, Community Conference Room
 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA
 Contact: <http://amateur-radio.org> or Al, WB6IMX@att.net

Electronics Flea Market

Sponsorship by **A.S.V.A.R.O.** — Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations
 Second Saturday of month, March-October, 6am-2pm
 Howard M. Krawetz, N6HM 650-856-9761
 Contact: <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>

PAARA — Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

Meets 1st Friday 7:00pm each month at Room H-6, Cubberley Community Center; Net 145.230 - PL 100Hz Mondays at 8:30. See our website at <http://www.paara.org> for more information or contact: Joel Wilhite KD6W, kd6w@ARRL.NET, 650-325-8239

FARS — Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Meets 4th Friday each month at 7:30pm
 Contact: <http://www.fars.k6ya.org>

NCDXC — Northern California DX Club

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month,
 Repeater for member info 147.360, Thursday 8:00PM
 Contact: <http://ncdxc.org> or Mike Gavin W6WZ, (650) 851 8699

QCWA Chapter 11

Northern California Quarter Century Wireless Association

Meets third Wednesday monthly at Harry's Hofbrau in Redwood City @ 11:30 AM.
 Guests are welcome. Saturday morning net on 146.850 MHz, PL 114.8

NorCalQRP — Northern California QRP Club

Meets 1st Sunday each month
 Contact: <http://www.norcalqrp.org>

SPECS

Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

Meets each Monday 8:00pm on Net 145.27, 440.80 MHz
 Contact: <http://specsnet.org> or Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441

SCARES

South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month, Belmont EOC, Belmont City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont CA 94002. Net is on 146.445 [PL 114.8] & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings. Contact: President Gary D. Aden, K6GDA 650-743-1265 (D), 650- 595-5590 (N)
 Web: <http://k6mpn.org> E-mail: pres@k6mpn.org

SCCARA

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Operates W6UU & W6UU/R, repeater 146.985-pl
 Nets: 2m, 7:30pm Mon; 70cm, 442.425+ (pl 107.2) Thur.
 Meets 2nd Mon each month @ 7:30 PM.
 Contact: <http://www.qsl.net/sccara> or Clark Murphy KE6KXO 408-262-9334
 ARRL/VEC license testing contact 408-507-4698

SVECS — Silicon Valley Emergency Communications

Operates AA6BT repeater (146.115 MHz+)
 contact: <http://www.svecs.net> or Lou Stierer WA6QYS 408 241 7999

TEARS — The Elmer Amateur Radio Society

Dedicated to operational training, knowledge building & FCC exam testing.
 KV6R repeater under construction.
 Contact: AA6T@ARRL.NET
 Most members are Extra Class or VE's. See QRZ dot com/kv6r for class info

WVARA — West Valley Amateur Radio Association

W6PIY six-meter repeater on 52.58MHz. Normally, six-meters is linked with 147 and 223, while 441 and 1286 repeaters are linked.
 VHF: 52.58 (-500) 151.4 ctcss UHF: 441.35 (+5.0) 88.5 ctcss
 147.39 (+600) 151.4 ctcss 1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctcss
 223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 ctcss
 Meetings are 3rd Wednesday of every month.
 Contact: <http://wvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, N6FFC@Juno.com, or N6FFC@ARRL.NET

American Red Cross, Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Contact: <http://santacalaravalley.redcross.org> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924 shensley@Novell.com

(Please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor)



James Farrey
 Sales Manager

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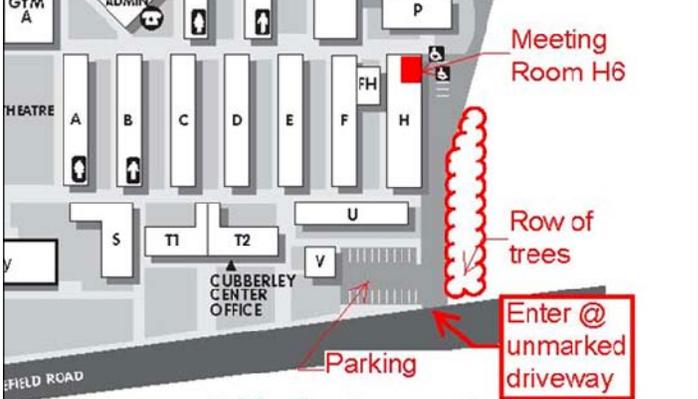
Badges are ready for pickup.

If you would like to order a badge, see **Doug Teter, KG6LWE.**

PAARA Weekly Radio Net
 Info and Swap Session every Monday evening at 8:30pm on the N6NFI 145.230 MHz repeater

<u>Week</u>	<u>Control Operator</u>
1 st	Open
2 nd	Doug - KG6LWE
3 rd	Jack - N1VSL
4 th	Marty - W6NEV
5 th	Up for Grabs!

If you're interested in trying out at Net Control, Contact Doug, KG6LWE. It's good practice, and lots o' fun! Give it a try.



Cubberley Community Center
 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303
 650/329.2418
 650/856.8756 fax
 www.cityofpaloalto.org

Legend
 Disabled Parking
 Public Pay Telephone

Meeting Location — Middlefield Road between San Antonio and Charleston in Palo Alto. 4000 Middlefield Road

<http://www.foto.mail.ru/list/shkurkin>

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Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association
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Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:00pm at the Room H-6, Cubberley Community Center.

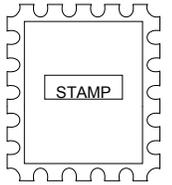
Radio NET & Swap Session every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230 –600 MHz repeater, PL 100Hz.

Membership in PAARA is \$20.00 per calendar year, which includes one subscription to PAARAgaphs \$6 for each additional family member (no newsletter).
 Make payment to the
 Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association,
 P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026-0911

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PAARAgaphs — Oct 2013

Accept no substitutes. Produced and printed in California USA



Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
 PAARAgaphs Newsletter
 P.O. Box 911
 Menlo Park, California 94026

FIRST CLASS MAIL

MEETING DATE IS FRIDAY, OCT 11

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 (Near Disneyland)
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 714-952-1111
(800) 554-6046
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radio@hamradio.com

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sandiego@hamradio.com

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 Jon, K6WV, Mgr.
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radio@hamradio.com

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 510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085
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sunnyvale@hamradio.com

REMOTE RIG



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 The set of three parts allows remote control of your remote rig. You can use the remote rig to control your rig from a distance. The set includes a remote rig, a control unit, and a control cable.
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 • 50W 2M/440 VHF-30W (V-Scan only)
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